for increase in Central Assistace for its projects during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reason of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMAGO): (a) The State of Tamil Nadu has not requested for an increase in Central Plan Assistance (formula-based) during the current financial year over and above what has been allocated to the State for their Annual Plan 1993-94.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Study on transfer and placement of ISS Officers

3613. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the department of Statistics, the Cadre controlling Authority of Indian Statistical Service, is aware of the study report on transfer and placement policy of officers of the Indian Statistical Service brought out by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in May, 1993;

(b) if so, what action has been taken separately on each of the seven recommendation given in chapter 4 of the said study report; and

(c) by when all these recommendations will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Recommendations pertain to changing the ratio of direct recruits and departmental candidates in Grade IV of ISS, cadre review, management information system, norms of years for promotion from one Grade to another, transfer/placement policy, provision for certain percentage under the central staffing scheme, and feasibility of postings to State Government offices. The Cadre-related issues will become meaningfully a part of the cadre review exercise. The Depatment is seized with the problem of cadre review and is in continuous correspondence with the Ministry of Finance. Some of the other issues require consultation with appropriate authorities.

Revival of performance of certain sectors

3614. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the concern over the serious gaps in 1992 Plan Expenditure, Government have decided to review the performance of some sectors;

(b) if so, what are these sectors; where Government have shown serious concern about poor performance; and

(c) whether any concrete proposal in this regard has been considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) There is no question of reviving performance of some sectors However, if it means review, the performance of annual plan 1992-93 was reviewed.

(b) and (c) Annual Plan 1992-93 including expenditure position was recently reviewed and certain amount of fiscal shortfall in some sectors like Transport, Power and Communication was noted. Efforts at Mobilisation of additional resources are a continuous process during a Plan period.

Non-availability of States' cost of living indices

3615. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission does not have appropriate State-specific cost of living indices to enable it to make accurate estimates of poverty;

(b) what steps are proposed to obtain such data from every State; and

(c) what are the reasons for non availability of such data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) State-specific cost of living indices are compiled for different groups of pupulation by different government agencies, viz., Labour Bureau compile Consumer Price Index Numbers for Agricultural Labourers and Industrial Workers and Central Statistical Organisation compile Consumer Price Index Numbers for Urban Non-Manual Employees covering major states. The methodology of estimating state-wise poverty is, so far, based on the use of an All-India poverty line for all the tates which is updated on the basis of national level index of price movement.

Redefining of poverty line

3616. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Planning Commission to re-define "poverty line";

(b) if so, the details of proposals and suggestions under consideration;

(c) whether the Planning Commission's existing method of defining the poverty line has come in for criticism; and

(d) what are the details of such criticism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (d) The Planning Commission had constituted an Expert Group to look into the methodology of estimating poverty at national and state levels and also to go into the question of redefining poverty, if necessary. The Group has review the existing methodology of estimating poverty in respect of:

(i) The procedure of adjustment of consumption expenditure date produced by the National Sample Survey Organisation.

(ii) Choice of deflators to represent priec changes, and

(iii) Choice of consumption basket over time and across States.

The Expert Group has recommended revisions in methodology after making a detailed study of data on consumption expenditure, price changes, price differentials acrors the States and consumption pattern of the poor. The Expert Group has also suggested an indepth study relating poverty to living standards and employment as well as free social services provided by the Government.